Needing Plan and Preliminary Discussion Guide

Focus of Team Research

The focus will be on homeschool environments, which are a very small portion of the American schooling system. As a minority group, many of the advancements in AI technology that have begun to be implemented to support the education system have passed over the homeschool community. Therefore, we wish to see how foundation models can be used to support and augment the homeschool community, especially since many parents whose children have learning disabilities choose to support their children by homeschooling them and giving them a highly personalized education.

Target Interviewees

We would like to interview individuals from the following three categories and make sure to talk to at least three individuals from each of the categories:
1. Homeschooling Parents
2. Homeschooled Individuals
3. Academic Experts in Education x Tech

Within each category, we have identified names of individuals that we plan to interview.

Homeschooling Parents
- Jannet Kim
- Kristy Newport
- Kate & Justin Woyak
- Kylie Ko

Homeschooled Individuals
- Brianna Newport

- Kamryn Newport

- Jessica Newport

- Elijah Kim

- Caleb Matthews

- Chris

- Dylan

Academic Experts in Education x Tech

- Mitchell Stevens
- Lisa Yan
- Brigid Barron
- Karrell Forssell

Recruiting Plan

We have already been in contact with a number of homeschooling parents and homeschooled individuals, all of whom have agreed to participate in an interview. Kristy Newport has offered to connect us with more homeschooling parents, which will also give us access to additional homeschooled students, if needed.

We plan to reach out to experts at the intersection of education and technology in the Graduate School of Education.

Logistics

We expect interviews to be at least fifteen minutes with the possibility of going longer if the participants wish to share at greater detail. Virtual interviews will be conducted and recorded over Zoom. The audio of in-person interviews will be recorded. Participants will be given a consent form to sign beforehand stating that they are willing to have their responses recorded and used for our project. We plan to begin interviews this week (week 2 of the quarter), and we expect some interviews may take place next week (week 3 of the quarter).

Discussion Guide Draft

Introduction

Hello and thank you for joining us today for this interview! We're a student team working on a project about homeschooling and the use of artificial intelligence for teaching. During this

interview, we'll be asking you a few questions about your experience with homeschooling, particularly in terms of how you've used technology and AI to enhance your child's education.

We're really interested in hearing about your personal experience with homeschooling, so we won't be providing much information about our project or the broader topic of AI in education. Instead, we just want to hear your thoughts and insights on this topic.

We're hoping to keep the conversation fairly casual and conversational, so feel free to share your thoughts and experiences openly. We'll ask a few specific questions, but we're also open to any other insights or stories you'd like to share about your homeschooling journey. Thanks again for joining us!

Additionally, before we begin, we would like to ask for your permission to record this interview. This recording will only be used by our student team for the purpose of our research project and will remain confidential within our team. We want to ensure that we capture accurate and detailed information during this interview, and recording it will help us do that.

Additionally, we would like to clarify that any information you share with us during this interview will be kept within our group and will not be shared with anyone outside of our research team. We respect your privacy and want to ensure that you feel comfortable sharing your experiences with us.

If you're comfortable with recording and agree to these terms, we can get started with the interview.

Topics to Cover

- Reasons for homeschooling
- Educational resources used
- Curriculum development
- Individualized teaching
- Neurodivergent learning

Specific Questions

- Why did you choose to homeschool your child/children?
- How old were your children when you homeschooled them?
- Did you homeschool multiple children at once? If so, tell us more about that experience?
- How did you develop a curriculum to instruct your children?
- What education resources did you use to teach your children? To learn about topics yourself?
- What was your experience as someone who was homeschooled?
- How long were you homeschooled?
- What online tools were used during your homeschooling experience?